

Info Sheet 3 Timeline of Economic Events and Tax Measures 1990-2010

Theme 2: Taxes in U.S. History Lesson 7: Tax Reform in the 1990s and 2000s

Key Terms

deficit—The result of the government taking in less money than it spends.

surplus—The result of the government taking in more money than it spends.

tax credit—A dollar-for-dollar reduction in the tax. Can be deducted directly from taxes owed.

President	Year	National Economic Events	Federal Tax Measures
Bill Clinton	1995	Stock market begins to increase rate of growth	
	1997	Federal deficit becomes a surplus Taxpayer Relief Act passes	Child tax credit Hope education credit Lifetime Learning credit
G.W. Bush	2000	Stock market peaks and crashes (“dot-com”/tech bubble)	
	2001	September 11 attacks Federal surplus becomes a deficit again EGTRRA passes	Child tax credit increased and made refundable Child & Dependent Care credit Education credits expanded Income tax rates lowered
	2002	Iraq War begins	
	2003	JGTRRA passes	Child tax credit expanded Income tax rates lowered
	2005	Hurricane Katrina	
	2005-2006	U.S. Housing market peaks	
	2007-2008	Recession begins, economy plunges sharply in September Work begins on the American Recovery Act	First-Time Homebuyer credit
Barack Obama	2009-2010	Recovery Act passes and mitigates some effects of economic crisis, but the federal deficit continues to increase	First-Time Homebuyer credit increased Making Work Pay credit American Opportunity credit replaces Hope credit